Application No.: 09/006,999

epter Mc Applicant(s): SHIFF et al.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions:

1. (Original) In a continuous flow centrifuge apparatus, the improvement comprising the addition of a filtration column of particulate material.

- 2. (canceled)
- 3. (canceled)
- 4. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 in which said particulate material is graded glass beads or sand.
- 5. (canceled)
- 6. (Currently amended) A method for concentrating or isolating a microorganism from an aqueous suspension, said method comprising centrifuging said solution suspension using the apparatus of claim 1.
- 7. (Original) In a method for concentrating, isolating or detecting a microorganism using a continuous flow centrifuge, the improvement comprising using a filtration column of particulate material in the fluid stream of the centrifuge.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 7 in which the microorganism is a cyst of cryptosporidium or giardia.
- 9. (canceled)
- 10. (Previously presented) In a continuous flow centrifuge apparatus, the improvement comprising the addition of a filtration column of particulate material, wherein said particulate material is selected from the group consisting of graded glass beads of 120-50 µm and fine sand of 200-50 µm and the column is at least about 7 cm in height.
- 11. (Currently amended) A continuous flow centrifuge apparatus which is adapted to include includes a filtration column of particulate material having a size range of 120-50 μm.
- 12. (Previously presented) In a method for concentrating, isolating or detecting a cyst of cryptosporidium or giardia using a continuous flow centrifuge, the improvement comprising using a filtration column of graded glass beads or sand in the fluid stream of the centrifuge.